A HISTORY

OF THE TOWN OF

GREENWICH,

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CONN.,

WITH

Many Impontant Statistics.

BY

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ferent hands. But as young Patrick, like his father, was of a roving disposition, a compromise was easily effected, and "all his right, title, and interest in any land or estate in the settlement," were bought with a horse, saddle and bridle, and fifty pounds; with all which he left for parts unknown.

The actual settlement, as we have said, was made east of the Myanos river; but about the year 1672, a number of persons, mostly living in town, though some, as Rev. Jeremiah Peck, were even from other colonies than Connecticut, purchased Miosehasseky from the few Indians yet living about the western part of the town. These purchasers were twenty-seven in number, and styled the "27 Proprietors of 1672." Their names are, we believe, nearly all preserved in the town, and we give them as we accidentally found them on a stray leaf of the well-worn records:—

27 Proprietors of 1672.

Ephraim Palmer,
Jonathan Reynolds, or
Renolds,
John Hubbe (Hobby),
Stephen Sherwood,
Joseph Mead,

Samuel Peek,
Joseph Seres,
Angell Heusted,
William Hubbard,
Samuel Ginkins (Jenkins),
William Ratere,

John Bowers,
Joseph Finch,
William Rundle,
John Mead,
John Asten,
Jeremiah Peck,
John Palmer,
Walter Butler,

John Marshall,
Jonathan Lockwood,
John Renalds,
Gershom Lockwood,
James Seres,
Thomas Close,
Thomas Close,
Jun.,
Daniel Smith.

These kept separate records of their own, and West Greenwich (by them called Horseneck), was entirely under their control.

In 1676, the people began, more than previously, it is said, to feel the need of having the Gospel preached more regularly upon the Sabbath. Accordingly, at a full meeting of the voters of the town, it was resolved to invite some "suitable minister" to come and live among them. Inquiries were immediately made for some proper man, and upon the recommendation of a certain Mr. Bishop, an invitation was extended to the Rev. Mr. Wizwale. For some reason, this call was never accepted; and the town was two years longer without a pastor. But, in 1678, an invitation was given to the Rev. Jeremiah Peck, of Elizabethtown, N. J. He was one of the proprietors of the large tract of land on which Elizabethtown is built; and it was no small recommendation of the man that he was one of the "27 Proprietors of 1672" at Horseneck. This invitation was almost immediately accepted; and in the fall of the same year Mr. Peck settled in Greenwich, and became the progenitor of the numerous Pecks still to be found in Greenwich. The first salary paid to Mr. Peck was fifty pounds with firewood, or sixty without. He chose the latter.

In 1679, Thomas Close sold his land, lying on both sides of the Myanos, which was a very large tract, and purchased other land in the southeastern part of the town. The house or a portion of the house in which he lived a hundred and sixty years ago, is claimed to be still standing, half a mile southeast of the present borough of Greenwich.

In 1681, took place the earliest marriage that is recorded, although others must have preceded it, by the Rev. Jeremiah Peck,—John Mead, jun., to Miss Ruth Hardey.

About the same time, John Banks and Thomas Lyon received a large grant of land. The whole tract consisted of four hundred acres, and was situated in the angle made by the Armonck or Byram river and the Westchester path.

1684. Mr. Peck still continues to preach,